

PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of

Docket No: Q82508

Arnaud BISSON, et al.

Appln. No.: 10/502,353

Group Art Unit: 2613

Confirmation No.: 8113

Examiner: Dzung D. Tran

Filed: September 16, 2004

For: A METHOD OF BACKING UP A RING OPTICAL TELECOMMUNICATIONS NETWORK AND COMMUNICATIONS NODE, AN AMPLIFIED COMMUNICATIONS NODE, AND A TRAFFIC CONCENTRATOR FOR A BACKED UP RING OPTICAL TELECOMMUNICATIONS NETWORK

RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

Mail Stop Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

This responds to the Restriction Requirement, dated October 17, 2007. In response to the Restriction Requirement, Applicant elects Species I, FIG. 1 for examination. Claims 11, 12, 14, 15, 20, 21, and 23 are readable on the elected Species. This election is made with traverse.

Applicant traverses the restriction requirement on the ground that examination of the all the claim does not present a search burden on the United States Patent and Trademark Office. According to MPEP §803, if the search and examination of an entire application can be made without serious burden, the Examiner must examine it on the merits, even though it includes claims to independent or distinct inventions. In the present case, the Examiner has already searched and examined on the merits the subject matter of the claims. Further, Species 1-3 are so inextricably

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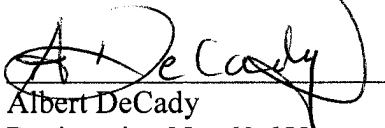
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related that no species can be comprehensively examined without also searching those areas related to the other species (see MPEP 808.02), i.e., a thorough search of the subject matter of any one of the species would encompass a search for the subject matter of the other species. Therefore, Applicant respectfully requests the withdrawal of the restriction requirement and the examination of all the claims (11-22), as one group, in the subject application.

Applicant reserves the right to file a Divisional Application directed to non-elected claims 13, 16-19 and 22.

The USPTO is directed and authorized to charge all required fees, except for the Issue Fee and the Publication Fee, to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. Please also credit any overpayments to said Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,


Albert DeCady
Registration No. 60,658

SUGHRUE MION, PLLC
Telephone: (202) 293-7060
Facsimile: (202) 293-7860

WASHINGTON OFFICE

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CUSTOMER NUMBER

Date: November 19, 2007